



12/16/03

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

SB 476 (EMERSON)

Senate Bill 476 removes language regarding the ability for libraries to merge that was designed for Flint and Genesee County. The situation has already been addressed locally.

- The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 476 [RC 631: 35 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

SB 771 (EMMERSON)

Senate bill 771 expands the duties available to a financial manager with respect to a unit of local government when a financial emergency has been determined. The expanded duties include: 1) Reduce, suspend, or eliminate the salary or other compensation of the administrative officer and members of the governing body of the unit of government. 2) If the financial manager determines that criminal conduct contributed to the financial emergency, s/he is required to refer the matter to the attorney general. 3) The bill excludes the ombudsman position and the city clerk because, in the City of Flint, the city council appoints those two positions. The House amendment adds “chief administrative officer” to the list of those whose compensation can be determined by the financial manager in times of financial crisis.

- The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 771 [RC 632: 36 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 588 (Johnson)

Senate Bill 588 would include home help care providers and durable medical equipment providers in the list of those that must be paid “on a timely basis” by insurers. Support: MI Home Help Assn., Mich. Hospital Assoc.

- SB 588 passed [RC 638: 36 yes, 0 no].

SB 635 (Hammerstrom)

Senate Bill 635 would allow for an individual under 60 years to be admitted to “home for the aged” if it is determined to be in the best interest of the individual by: the individual, the individual’s guardian or representative, the individual’s physician and the owner, operator or governing body of the home.

Support: DCH, CIS, MAHSA, MI Center for Assisted Living, MI Assisted Living Assn.

- SB 635 was passed [RC 640: 35 yes, 0 no].

HB 4480 (Robertson)

HB 4481 (STALLWORTH)

HB 4482 (DeRossett)

HB 4483 (KOLB)

HB 4484 (Gaffney)

HB 4488 (JAMNICK)

House Bills 4480-88 present an innovative approach to relieving the state and local units of tax reverted parcels, and returning the property both to productive use and to the tax rolls. Tax reverted property generates no tax revenue unless it is returned to the tax rolls, which means that the property must be marketable and willing buyers must exist. Instead of continuing to receive nothing—no tax revenue—governmental units would receive 50 percent of the specific tax collected on property sold by a land bank. After five years, the property again would be subject to the property tax.

Initially, the land bank authorities would receive and “bank” a number of tax reverted parcels, which the authorities could dispose of in a variety of ways. If the title to tax reverted property were questionable, an authority could take advantage of the expedited process for quieting title. Reportedly, the cost of clearing title is about \$500 to \$1,000 for each parcel when there are not problems, such as environmental issues or necessary demolition. Under the proposed legislation, a land bank authority could clear title to many parcels at one time, batching them for an expedited judicial procedure. With clear title, the authority could proceed to sell the properties, or otherwise convey them. A land bank authority could generate revenue by selling property that was transferred to it (or that it purchases) by issuing bonds and notes, leasing property to tenants, and charging for the use of property.

Support: Mich. Municipal League, Mich. Assoc. of Counties, Detroit Chamber of Commerce, Home Builders, Treasurers from Oakland and Genesee, Mich. Assoc. of Realtors.

HB 4480:

- HB 4480 passed with IE [RC 633: 36 yes, 0 no].

HB 4481:

- HB 4481 passed with IE [RC 634: 36 yes, 0 no].

HB 4482:

- HB 4482 passed with IE [RC 635: 36 yes, 0 no].

HB 4483:

- HB 4483 passed with IE [RC 636: 35 yes, 0 no].

HB 4484:

- HB 4484 passed with IE [RC 639: 35 yes, 0 no].

HB 4488:

- HB 4488 passed with IE [RC 637: 36 yes, 0 no].

HB 4786 (Kooiman)

House Bill 4786 would allow minor to perform unpaid volunteer work under adult supervision for a charitable housing organization. The bill is intended to allow youth groups to volunteer their time on projects like Habitat for Humanity. Currently, children who volunteer on charitable housing construction sites could be found in violation of the state child labor law.

Support: Department of Labor and Economic Growth, Habit for Humanity of Michigan.

- HB 4786 passed with IE [RC 641: 35 yes, 0 no].

THIRD READING

HB 4249 (GLEASON)

House Bill 4249 would prohibit the public display of an autopsy photograph of a decedent that identifies the decedent by name, face, or other identifying feature.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- Cropsey 1A (3 amends) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 4249 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4914 (Palsrok)

House Bill 4914 would instruct the Department of State on the appropriate use for money received from the sale of the Great Lakes protection specialty watercraft decal. Of the \$35 collected, \$10 would remain with the Department of State to design and produce the sticker and the remaining \$25 would go to the State Treasurer for deposit into the Michigan Great Lakes Protection Fund. Support: DEQ, MEC.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 4914 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 5216 (TOBOCMAN)

HB 5217 (McCONICO)

HB 5218 (DANIELS)

HB 5219 (Howell)

HB 5220 (Gaffney)

HB 5224 (HOOD)

This package of bills is necessary to give cities the tools to more swiftly deal with blighted properties by allowing an administrative hearings bureau to handle cases involving blighted properties. These bills do not create new infractions or penalties, but create a new way to adjudicate blight violations.

Support: The City of Detroit, Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce, MI Chamber of Commerce, MI Municipal League, City of Grand Rapids, and the City of Dearborn.

House Bill 5216 would allow the legislative body of a city to adopt “blight” violation ordinances. The city may designate only a violation of any of the following types of ordinances as a blight violation: 1) zoning; 2) building or property maintenance; 3) solid waste and illegal dumping; 4) disease and sanitation; 5) noxious weeds; 6) vehicle abandonment, inoperative vehicles, vehicle impoundment, and municipal vehicle licensing.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- Cropsey 1A (3 amends) was adopted [no RC].
- Cropsey 1B (1 amend) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 5216 was moved to 3rd Reading.

House Bill 5217 would allow a city to obtain a lien against property involved in a blight violation if a defendant does not pay fines within 30 days after the date on which the payment was due.

- Cropsey 1 (2 amends) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 5217 was moved to 3rd Reading.

House Bill 5218 would provide that a city may allow an administrative hearings bureau (created in HB 5216) to adjudicate alleged violations of ordinances and impose sanctions

- Committee 1 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 5218 was moved to 3rd Reading.

House Bill 5219 would clarify blight violations in cities, townships, or villages that establish an administrative hearings bureau and specify prosecutorial responsibilities for such blight violations.

- HB 5219 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

House Bill 5220 would provide that local officials shall impose a civil fine or other legal sanction for a municipal civil infraction or a blight violation.

- Committee 1 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 5220 was moved to 3rd Reading.

House Bill 5224 would allow a township, city, or village which has established an administrative hearings bureau to designate the refusal to destroy noxious weeds as a blight violation.

- Committee 1 (2 amends) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 5224 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 5306 (Wenke)

House Bill 5306 would create the Office of Manufacturing Czar within the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. The manufacturing czar would be required to do all of the following: 1) Devote his or her entire time to facilitating the creation and retention of manufacturing jobs in this state. 2) Implement the portions of the department's strategic plan that address manufacturing job creation and retention in this state. 3) Coordinate all programs within the department to create and retain manufacturing jobs in this state. 4) Coordinate programs across government to create and retain manufacturing jobs in this state. 5) Aid and assist manufacturers in this state. 6) Work to create a business environment that encourages and sustains manufacturing in this state. 7) Work to empower manufacturers to take advantage of the opportunities the market offers in this state.

Support: Michigan Manufacturers Association.

Oppose: Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

- HB 5306 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.